

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

MEETING DATE YYYY/MM/DD <b>2020/09/24</b>	MEETING NAME <b>Regional Council Meeting</b>
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Attention: Regional Clerk  
Regional Municipality of Peel  
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A  
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  
Phone: 905-791-7800 ext. 4582  
E-mail: [council@peelregion.ca](mailto:council@peelregion.ca)

DATE SUBMITTED YYYY/MM/DD <b>2020/09/16</b>
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NAME OF INDIVIDUAL(S) <b>Rev. Geoff Ross, Richard McMechan</b>
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POSITION(S)/TITLE(S) <b>Lead Minister, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church; Co-Chair of the St. APC Property Committee</b>
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NAME OF ORGANIZATION(S) <b>St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Brampton</b>
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E-MAIL <b>geoff@standrewsbrampton.ca</b>	TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>(647) 524-1870</b>	EXTENSION
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REASON(S) FOR DELEGATION REQUEST (SUBJECT MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED) <b>See attached letter</b>
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A formal presentation will accompany my delegation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Presentation format: <input type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint File (.ppt) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adobe File or Equivalent (.pdf) <input type="checkbox"/> Picture File (.jpg) <input type="checkbox"/> Video File (.avi,.mpg) <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/>
Additional printed information/materials will be distributed with my delegation : <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Attached

**Note:**  
Delegates are requested to provide an electronic copy of all background material / presentations to the Clerk's Division at **least ten (10) business days prior** to the meeting date so that it can be included with the agenda package. **In accordance with Procedure By-law 56-2019 delegates appearing before Regional Council or Committee are requested to limit their remarks to 5 minutes and 10 minutes respectively (approximately 5/10 slides).**  
Delegates should make every effort to ensure their presentation material is prepared in an [accessible format](#).  
Once the above information is received in the Clerk's Division, you will be contacted by Legislative Services staff to confirm your placement on the appropriate agenda.

**Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information**  
*(Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)*

Personal information contained on this form is authorized under Section 5.4 of the Region of Peel Procedure By-law 56-2019, for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before Regional Council or a Committee of Council. The Delegation Request Form will be published in its entirety with the public agenda. The Procedure By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended. Please note that all meetings are open to the public except where permitted to be closed to the public under legislated authority. All Regional Council meetings are audio broadcast via the internet and will be posted and available for viewing subsequent to those meetings. Questions about collection may be directed to the Manager of Legislative Services, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, 5th floor, Brampton, ON L6T 4B9, (905) 791-7800 ext. 4462.

**Please complete and return this form via email to [council@peelregion.ca](mailto:council@peelregion.ca)**

To the Members of the Regional Council and Staff:

I'm writing on behalf of the Session and Congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Brampton that is located at 44 Church Street East; located near the heart of downtown Brampton – north of the YMCA on Union St., 1 block east of Main St.

We believe that, over our 172 year history, that St. Andrew's has been a Church that has sought to love and serve the downtown core of Brampton. For over 20 years we have run a weekly Food Bank for those in the community who struggle with food security – in the months leading up to the COVID19 shutdown, our Food Bank was serving an average of 175 clients a week!

Through the Food bank we have long been a support to those living at or below the poverty line in the downtown Brampton area, a population that faces many struggles and pressures – especially with recent closures of rental properties in the downtown area – with homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, prostitution, and violence. Again, through the Food Bank, we have seen ourselves as an advocate for those who often have no voice and our congregation is known within this community as a 'friend.' So it is unusual for us to be bringing up issues like this but, over the past year – and, now, especially during the past 6 months with the COVID19 shutdowns – we have seen an increasing number of incidents that have us concerned that the safety of our congregation, volunteers and staff are at risk.

Pleas know that this is not a request based on 'NIMBY-ism'; nor is this about blaming anyone for the problem. We are deeply concerned about those who have been trespassing (sleeping, camping, drinking, performing sex acts, shooting up, partying, fighting) on our property. We know that there are many social causes and reasons, but it is very clear that they need help beyond what we are equipped to offer – or even the police are able to do: mental health and addictions support for our downtown is very much needed – and not just because of the COVID19 pandemic, but because this is a systemic problem. As a result of these activities, our church volunteers and staff are now required to complete multiple perimeter checks each day to dispose of needles & other drug paraphernalia, and to remove people sleeping on the church property or using its grounds as a washroom.

We are reaching out for your help but in the hope of working together to find a sustainable solution. While we understand that this is a large problem, we believe if we all work together we can create a solution. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church staff and volunteers are asking the Region of Peel to support immediate action with the escalating mental health, addiction and homelessness in the downtown core community.

Thank you, yours in Christ,



Rev. Geoff Ross.